



WATSONIAN NEWS LETTER October 7, 2005

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WELCOME NEW WS MEMBERS:

Mary C. Brewer is a Public health advisor, who started her first assignment with Global Migration and Quarantine. Mary began her position on 04/18/2005 working out of the Seattle Tacoma International Airport. Mary lists interests in Community Health Education and Minority Health.

Evan D. Mayfield began his first assignment as a public health advisor in Albany NY with the OD/OCOO/Portfolio Management Project in March of 2005. Evan list his hobbies as: traveling, cycling, and cooking.

Mark A. Davis started w/ CDC in August 2005 as a Public Health Analyst, in the National Center For Injury Prevention And Control / Office of Program Management and Operations. Mark's hobbies include: reading, biking, and sports.

Lee L. Lam, a PHA in NCHSTP/OD since 02/06/2005 Lee began his CDC career 1996, working in HIV/AIDS laboratory as a biologist until his move to NCHSTP/OD. Lee lists interest in education, retirement Investment and staying healthy.

Chris Kissler is a health scientist in NCHSTP's TB program as the new project manager for the Tuberculosis Epidemiologic Studies Consortium. This is his first federal position. Chris hails from the Florida Department of Health where he was the Director of Field Services for the Bureau of TB and Refugee Health. He has been working in public health for 10 years with a focus on the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, STD, and TB at both the local and state levels. Chris lists reading, and weightlifting as his hobbies.

COMMITTEE NEWS:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - all are invited to call in and participate.

October 18, 2005 2:30-4:00 pm

Where: CORPORATE SQUARE, building 11, Room 2105 (Phil's office)

Call In: Toll free #: 866-732-9603, Passcode 873632

Executive Committee Meeting- open to all

Chamblee Jerry Curtis 101 2147 (
Executive Park Dianne Ochoa 12 5007

Retirees and others can buy tickets from Fred Martich

Volunteers are needed to work as greeters and ticket takers the night of the banquet. Please let Cindi know if you would like to help.

A big "THANK YOU! to all of the ticket sellers- Your help is greatly appreciated!

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

When moving or changing your email address- please let Rita Varga .
Know so that you will not miss any WATSONIAN communication.

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**CONDOLENCES:**

Condolences to PHA **Tom Voglesonger** and family on the recent passing of his brother, James.

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The son of **Nancy Fasano**, NIP POB Branch Chief, passed away in September.
Condolences can be sent to Nancy at her work address:
Nancy Fasano, C/O NIP, Program Operations Branch

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John Forney - father of **David Forney** (PHA at CDC) - passed away the last week of September

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Fellow friends:

Just wanted all to know of a guestbook set up in memory of Jayson Trussel. It is at the link below:

<http://www.legacy.com/palmbeachpost/Guestbook.asp?Page=Guestbook&PersonID=15096005>

It is a permanently funded guestbook, meaning it will always be available. I don't think Debbie knows of it yet. This should be a priceless gift for Debbie to further realize the impact that Jayson had on people whose lives he touched.

It costs nothing to sign, has no advertising, your email won't be captured. Just a simple tribute to a man we all loved and respected. After a couple of weeks, I will send the link to Debbie. I encourage you all to take a few minutes and sign up for our old friend.

Feel free to pass this link on to fellow friends and associates.

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**HAVE YOU HEARD?**

OD Announcement - Dr. Steve Solomon Appointed as Director of CoCHIS

Today, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) takes another major step toward securing its leadership role as the nation's premier health protection agency. After a rigorous search, I am pleased to name **Captain Steve Solomon, M.D.**, as Director of the Coordinating Center for Health Information and Service (CoCHIS).

Many of you are already familiar with Dr. Solomon's leadership abilities. From February to August of 2005, he performed a remarkable job serving as the acting director for the National Center for Health Marketing, where he successfully led the Center through a challenging period of transition. That experience, coupled with his leadership skills, will serve him and CDC extremely well as he takes the helm of CoCHIS.

Dr. Solomon joined CDC in 1981 as an EIS officer with the Hospital Infections Program, NCID. In his nearly 25 years at CDC, he has compiled an exceptional history of professional service and leadership. He has served in multiple leadership positions at CDC, including: Acting Branch Chief, Epidemiology Branch, Hospital Infections Program; Chief, Special Studies Activity, Hospital Infections Program; Chief, Healthcare Outcomes Branch, Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, NCID; and Acting Director, Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion.

Dr. Solomon received his M.D. from Tufts University in 1975 and has completed residencies in both internal and preventive medicine.

I would like to extend a special thanks to Dr. Blake Caldwell and Dr. Ed Sondik for co-leading CoCHIS during the past year. Their dedication and numerous contributions have been critical to the development of the coordinating center, especially during the recent Katrina crisis.

I know that I can count on your enthusiastic support of Dr. Solomon as he assumes this key position at CDC.

Julie Louise Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H.

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As informatics has become an increasingly vital component of the nation's public health system, the work of the National Center for Public Health Informatics (NCPHI) has taken on greater importance. Because of this, the Coordinating Center for Health Information and Service (CoCHIS) is moving to implement a NCPHI organizational structure that will solidify its role and relationships within CDC and the broader public health community.

I am pleased that **Dr. Edward Sondik** is assuming the role of acting director for NCPHI. His successful leadership of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), his international reputation in health information and health statistics, his stature at CDC and at HHS, and his well-recognized accomplishments throughout the scientific community will allow him, beginning today, to lead NCPHI through its next phase of evolution. Dr. Sondik will continue on as the director for NCHS.

Dr. John Loonsk, who has been serving as the acting director for NCPHI, deserves tremendous credit and respect for having brought the field of informatics to CDC and to NCPHI. His intellect and vision have been highly valued. This vision remains central to CDC's future. We are looking forward to Dr. Loonsk's continued engagement and guidance helping to establish the center.

I must acknowledge the contributions of the entire NCPHI staff. This team continues to do their important work despite the challenges that evolving a whole new Center and discipline brings to the agency. We are committed to excelling in the area of public health informatics and building NCPHI into one of CDC's most prominent scientific and programmatic centers.

Julie Louise Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H.

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Dear NCHSTP Colleagues:

Please join me in congratulating **Dr. Dale Hu**, who has accepted a position as a Medical Epidemiologist with the Division of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (DBDDD). Dale will start in his new role on October 17, 2005. As you know, Dr. Hu has served as Acting Associate Director for Laboratory Science (ADLS) in NCHSTP/OD since July 2004 when the laboratory branches of the Division of AIDS, STD, and TB Laboratory Research (DASTLR) were merged with their corresponding divisions in NCHSTP. Prior to that, Dale served as Associate Director for Science in DASTLR and then as Acting Division Director.

Dale came to CDC in 1992 when he joined the Surveillance Branch in the Division of HIV/AIDS. He then worked in two other branches of DHAP, the International Activities Branch and the Epidemiology Branch, where he developed a number of productive collaborations. Dr. Hu is a Captain in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and serves on a number of boards, committees, and working groups. He is board certified in Preventive Medicine and is a Fellow of the American College of Preventive Medicine.

**Dr. Vickie Pope** has graciously agreed to serve as Acting Associate Director for Laboratory Science (ADLS), NCHSTP.

We wish Dale well and thank him for his consistent leadership during the merger of DASTLR into NCHSTP.

Ronald O. Valdiserri, M.D., M.P.H.  
Acting Director  
National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention

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I am pleased to announce the selection of **Mr. Gilbert Camacho** as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC), Director of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity (OEEO).

Mr. Camacho comes to CDC from the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, where he served as the Regional Operations Director of the Food Stamp Program. He has extensive experience and background in Diversity, Equal Opportunity and Civil Rights work, which includes working with a variety of public and private organizations including the Department of Defense, National Aeronautic and Space Administration, Gannett News, and the South African Policy Service and Ministry of Defense.

Mr. Camacho holds a Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Studies from the University of Southern Colorado, a Masters of Science in Applied Behavioral Counseling from Johns Hopkins University, and is currently working on his Ph.D. in Human and Organizational

Development (specializing in Diversity and Structural Inequality) with the Fielding Graduate University. In addition, Mr. Camacho is also a Certified Trainer and Mediator. I know that I can count on your support of Mr. Camacho as he assumes this important role. Please join us in welcoming him to this new role.

Carlton Duncan
Deputy Chief Operating Officer

News from the Division of Global Migration & Quarantine

In order to increase the surveillance and prevention efforts from the introduction and transmission of communicable diseases from foreign countries into the United States, the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine (DGMQ) is in the midst of a nationwide expansion effort at ports on entry. Increasing the number of quarantine stations from 8 to 18, with more planned in fiscal year 06. The new stations are the responsibility of The Quarantine and Border Health Services Branch (QBHSB) of DGMQ in the National Center of Infectious Diseases and are led by Acting Branch Chief, CDR Ram Koppaka and Deputy Branch Chief, **Marty Remis**. The new stations are in Anchorage, Boston, El Paso, Houston, Minneapolis, Newark, San Diego, San Juan and Washington, D.C. All stations have an Officer in Charge and a Quarantine Medical Officer plus a staff of Quarantine Public Health Officers. Most of the new stations are in the process of securing office space at either international airports or health departments. Temporary duty staff assigned to help with the voluminous details of this major expansion are **Billy Litchfield**, Deputy Branch Chief, DSTD, Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch and **Deidra Green**, Project Officer, Division of HIV/AIDS, Behavioral and Clinical Surveillance Branch.

The following new assignments to the growing staff in QBHSB include many PHAs both senior and new (as well as WATSONIAN MEMBERS). **Bill Morrill**, a microbiologist from the Bioterrorism Rapid Response and Advanced Technology Laboratory has accepted a permanent position at headquarters as a PHA. **John Neatherlin** previously a Health Scientist in the Program Evaluation Research Branch (PERB) in the Division of HIV/AIDS/NCHSTP has accepted a permanent PHA position also at headquarters in the Quarantine Station and Border Health Branch. **John Bateman**, previously assigned to the JFK Quarantine Station in New York has been promoted and assigned as the Quarantine Officer In Charge at the Newark International Airport. **David Gambill**, a PHA assigned to the State of California with the National Immunization Program and recently detailed to Los Angeles County has been named the Officer in Charge of the San Diego Quarantine Station. **Karen Kroc** a former PHA has returned to CDC as a Quarantine Public Health Officer at the Chicago Quarantine Station. **Pamela Lutz**, a PHA assigned to NCPHI/OD working on state and local partnerships related to the Public Health Information Network is now Office in Charge of the Minneapolis Quarantine Station. **Todd Wilson**, previously a PHA in the DTBE is the Officer in Charge of the El Paso Quarantine Stations. **Olga Joglar**, a PHA overseeing programmatic and fiscal issues in San Juan for the DTBE, has just accepted the position of the Officer in Charge of the San Juan Quarantine Station. **Heather Hastings** a PHA in the National Immunization Program (NIP) assigned to the City of Chicago has been named the Officer in Charge of the Seattle Quarantine Station. Heather sends this note. "I was trained by **Ed Mihalek**, an "old school" PHA. Also, **Thomas George**, a PHA previously assigned to City of Chicago with NIP has been assigned to the Miami Quarantine Station as a Quarantine Public Health Officer.

Additionally, **Todd Mercer**, formerly with the National Center for Birth Defects was promoted to Deputy Branch Chief as a PHA of the Geographic Medicine and Health Promotion Branch/DGMQ.

We are thrilled by the wealth of experiences these Public Health Advisors will contribute to our Division. A recent training conference in Atlanta found them all eager and excited to tackle the tremendous challenges of protecting the health of mobile populations.

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**MEMBERS in the NEWS- AWARD WINNERS**

**Nine federal employees received the prestigious 2005 Service to America Medals on Sept. 28**, including:

- Orlando Figueroa, a NASA employee from Silver Spring, Maryland,
- Barbara Turner of Falls Church, Virginia, and recently retired from USAID,
- Kevin McAleenan of Washington, D.C., Director of the Office of Anti-Terrorism at Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security,
- Elizabeth Grossman, an attorney at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission from Brooklyn, New York,
- Alan Estevez of Washington, D.C., a Department of Defense employee,
- **Steven Bice, a Centers for Disease Control employee from Atlanta, Georgia,**
- Tobin Bradley of Washington, D.C., a State Department employee,
- Subhashree Madhavan and the Rembrandt Project Team of the National Cancer Institute Center for Bioinformatics at the National Institutes of Health, and
- Terence Lutes, an IRS employee from Alexandria, Virginia.

For more on the awards, go to [www.servicetoamericamedals.org](http://www.servicetoamericamedals.org)

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CDC Connects > Inside Story > [Bice Wins Homeland Security Award](#)
9/29/2005

When hurricanes hit or terrorism is suspected, the Division of Strategic National Stockpile (DSNS) springs into action. The team delivers critical medical assets in an emergency. Last night, those life-saving efforts were recognized at a gala event in Washington DC.

Steve Bice, Director, Division of Strategic National Stockpile, a division of the Coordinating Office for Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Readiness, was among nine Americans honored for outstanding contributions to the nation.

Bice and Stockpile Win Homeland Security Medal

Bice was awarded a Service to America Medal, an honor paying tribute to his "commitment and innovation and the impact of his work on the needs of the nation." He won the Homeland Security Medal, for helping to develop two of the country's most

effective emergency preparedness organizations in the public health field (CDC's Emergency Operations Center and the Strategic National Stockpile).

"It's an honor for me personally," says Bice of his award, "but really it's an honor for all the folks at CDC who work so hard everyday, they're all quite special. The physicians, the scientists, the pharmacist, the public health advisors, the logistics and operations staff, they make it happen. It's a wonderful team."

Bice oversees the DSNS, a national repository of life-saving pharmaceuticals and medical supplies. "We provide medical countermeasures to the American people. Our mission is to deliver critical medical assets to the site of a national emergency. The DSNS stands ready for immediate deployment to states, cities, U.S. Territories, Commonwealths and other jurisdictions in the event of a terrorist attack or other national emergency."

Stockpile Used Successfully

DSNS has proven itself through multiple responses in the recent past. For example, DSNS successfully responded to the tragic events of September 11th (see Remembering 9/11) and the anthrax attacks in October and November of 2001. "We had 50 tons of supplies delivered to a warehouse in New York within seven hours after they were requested by Mayor Giuliani following the attacks on the World Trade Center," Bice proudly recalls.

During the anthrax attacks, the team flew well over 50 missions, delivering medicine to the field and lab samples to CDC for diagnosis. "Many postal workers were exposed to lethal doses of anthrax and I contend our quick response helped save lives," Bice says.

The division has been working around the clock during the recent hurricanes, which slammed into the Gulf Coast. DSNS activated its coordination center at 1 p.m. Sunday, August 28, more than 18 hours before Hurricane Katrina made landfall. The official decision to deploy the SNS came at 4 p.m. A few hours later, the first truck carrying medical supplies was dispatched. By the time Katrina began pounding the Gulf coast and flooded New Orleans early Monday morning, DSNS had personnel and 30 pallets of medical supplies in Louisiana.

"The biggest challenge was helping rebuild a devastated infrastructure," said Stephanie Dulin, DSNS Technical Advisory Response Unit (TARU) member, who was sent to Louisiana. "DSNS expects to be able to depend on the infrastructure. Outstanding teamwork and cooperation between local and federal officials enabled us to overcome this challenge. Partnerships with local public health officials are crucial to meet public health needs of those hardest hit by disaster."

Most Recently, Hurricane Katrina

Hurricane Katrina relief efforts are ongoing. To date, DSNS has sent over \$38 million of medical supplies—hundreds of thousands of doses of antibiotics, maintenance medications for chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, pain, anxiety, diarrhea, and other conditions, to the affected areas. Also included were IV supplies, insulin syringes and other related items. Many of the basic pharmaceuticals were in place within hours of the hurricane's passage.

“The Emergency Operations Center at CDC is the nerve center for dealing with any national or worldwide event involving a disease outbreak or natural disaster,” Bice explains. The EOC has been operational since the Columbia tragedy and has been operational about every other week for some kind of event from SARS to tsunamis. “The unique aspect of the EOC is that it pulls all of CDC together, so CDC’s people can do what they do best. We are ready all the time. This is what we needed to go into the 21st century, to fight disease and terrorism and natural disasters.”

Bice has long been a forward thinker when it came to stockpile issues. “I wrote a white paper back in 1998 discussing the possibility of stockpiling medicines and medical countermeasures in amounts we had never considered, to treat the very large numbers of people who could be exposed to threats. We were thinking in terms of floods, hurricanes, man-made disasters such as Bhopal, earthquakes which could release petro-chemicals, just about any disaster you could think of. More and more countries are being affected by cataclysmic events. Avian influenza is particularly troublesome. It’s a serious situation which has the potential for public health disaster. If you take the 1918 flu pandemic and translate it into today’s world, where we fly faster and farther, you can see the risks. Our world’s population explosion means we’re closer to each other, so it’s easier for viruses to jump from other species to humans.”

Reach Out and Touch – Is How it Works

The value of the stockpile is obvious. It can mitigate suffering and help save lives. It gets the right things to the right people in a short amount of time. “We can reach out and touch a variety of people worldwide,” says Bice. The SNS is comprised of caches of pharmaceuticals, vaccines, medical supplies, and medical equipment. These caches, or packages, are stored in strategic locations throughout the United States.

Following the federal decision to deploy, SNS assets can be transported by air or ground and delivered within 12 hours. Types of shipments to affected areas depend on whether or not the threat is known. The DSNS can send a broad-spectrum of pharmaceuticals and other medical items in the early hours of a terrorist attack or other national emergency, allowing local authorities to begin responding to an ill-defined threat. This shipment is called a 12-hour Push Package. “Twelve” because it will arrive in 12 hours or less, “push” because a state need only ask for assistance—not for specific items, and “package” because DSNS will ship a complete package of medical materiel—to include items needed to respond to a broad range of threats.

A team of technical advisors deploys with a 12-hour Push Package in order to transfer its contents to state and local authorities. This team is comprised of emergency responders and logistics experts who will advise local authorities on receiving, distributing, dispensing, replenishing, and recovering SNS materiel.

9/11 was a watershed for the nation and for public health, Bice explains. “Every American had the right to be furious but more than anger we had the resolve to get better at countering what bad people can do. I feel a tremendous pride in the people I work with and in the work that we do. That is what makes it worthwhile going to work everyday.

Warrior to Public Health

Bice turned to public health after serving in the Army. "I was an infantry officer, privileged to serve with the wonderful men and women of Special Ops. I think for any human being war is a watershed event. It taught me a lot about leadership and that it feels good to fix things. It also underscored the importance of prevention. I think it was a wonderful evolution, to go from being a warrior to working in public health."

He was wounded a couple of times in Vietnam, left the Army in 1970, and went back to graduate school. He was thinking about medical school when CDC recruited him. Bice joined CDC in 1971 working in the VD/STD program. He went through the EIS program as a Public Health Advisor. "Being a PHA combines a lot of skills: teaching, training, communicating, cajoling. I loved it."

He also loves his current mission, he says. "There are a thousand rewarding things about my job. The most important one is working with all the wonderful, professional people. I am blessed to work with them. This award is humbling; any award you get based on the work of others is humbling. This is really about the folks in DSNS and DEOC, remarkable people. It is their show. They are a national treasure."

The Service to America Medals were created in 2002 by the Partnership for Public Service, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization committed to inspiring Americans to government service, and Atlantic Media Company (publisher of Government Executive, National Journal and The Atlantic).

This Inside Story is by CDC Connects reporter Kathy Nellis with contributions by Scott Bryan, Communications Specialist, DSNS.

MORE AWARD WINNERS: 2005 CDC/ATSDR Honor Award

Category 23-A: Health Equity Award External Group

Nominee: TB Binational Card Group

(CDC/NCHSTP/DTBE)

"For prevention and control of TB and MDR TB in persons traveling between the U.S. and Mexico."

CDC/ATSDR Award is a most deserved recognition to those who have slaved over this binational card project -- on behalf of TB patients who cross the U.S.-Mexico border.

Aguilar, Lourdes
Alvarado, Gloria
Castro, Kenneth
Colorado, Alberto
DeLuca, Nick
Forti, Alic
Gonzalez, Ferando
Hernandez, Arturo
Laserson, Kayla
Mountain, Karen
Pena, Gloria R
Simpson, Gary
Villa, Marie
Waterman, Stephen
Zamor, Oralia

Aker, Diane
Ayala, Amelia Z.
Chavez-Lindell, Tamara
Creswell, Jacob
Escobedo, Miquel
Garcia, Deliana
Hardison, Xiomara
Jameson, Christine
Moreira, Jose
Moya, Eva
Schneider, Diana
Tomlinson, G. Victor
Wallace, Charles
Wells, Charles
Zuroweste, Ed

Almendariz, Bertha
Browning, Leticia
Cobos, Alma
Crusie, Phyllis
Ferroussier-Davis, Odile
Gonzales, Ray
Heetderks, Andy
Kokko, Jamie
Moser, Kathleen
Ortega, Luis
Schneider, Eileen
Vasquez, Juan F.
Walton, Wanda
Wilce, Maureen

CONGRATULATIONS to all the award winners!

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**MEMBER NEWS**

**C. Hickam** news:

Hey everybody.....Our son, Kelle and daughter-in-law, Nancy gave birth to a baby boy that weighed in at 7 Lbs 9 ozs on 10/3/05 This is number 5 for us, (3 girls and 2 boys) Life is good!!! Mom and baby boy are doing fine...Dad is still a little shaky.....Please keep the new one, John Kelly Hickam, in your prayers.....(Before his eyes were open, his first words were " I want to work for the USPHS/NCDC/ATSDR")

Now that his eyes are open, he says he wants to be a physician.....and/or a *Public Health Advisor*....

Warm personal regards to all of you,  
A happy grandmother and granddad.....  
Carl and Adalane Hickam

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**TDYS / TRANSFERS / PROMOTIONS and other changes**

Effective 9/19, **Craig Studer** is serving as Acting Deputy Chief, Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention. **Kathryn Koski** has been detailed to Craig's old role as Acting Chief, Financial and Administrative Services Office, NCHSTP.

**Lori de Ravello** helped us locate L. Shelby:

**Laura Shelby** began long term training in September at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; she is working on her Masters of Public Health degree and expects to be in London for one year.

Laura began her career at CDC in 1990 as a DIS with the City of Chicago STD Program. In addition, she was assigned to the Philadelphia STD program and has participated in three international temporary duty assignments (in Nigeria with the Global 2000 Guinea Worm Eradication Program and in Uganda with the Global AIDS Program). Laura has been assigned to the IHS National STD Program as its Program Manager since 1996.

We will miss Laura here in Albuquerque, but wish her well in her studies and in her future career plans with CDC/DSTD.

--**Sue Lin Yee**, a project officer with DNPA's Nutrition and Physical Activity Program to Prevent Obesity and Other Chronic Diseases, recently accepted a three-month assignment as Acting Team Lead with the State Surveillance and Evaluation Team at the Office on Smoking and Health. She will be there until at least October 15, 2005.

Taking her place temporarily is **Lyn Almon**, who has been working in CDC's Cancer Division. Previously, Lyn worked as an epidemiologist with the American Cancer Society.

--On August 8, **Fred Fridinger** started work as a project officer and Team Behavioral Scientist with the Nutrition and Physical Activity Program to Prevent Obesity and Other Chronic Diseases. Previously, Fred worked with the Centers for Medicare

and Medicaid Services in Baltimore and was a health communications contractor to the National Cancer Institute.

NCHSTP/ DTBE has had recent changes:

**Al Forbes**, headquarters- returned to the field staff on accepting a transfer to DTBE Miami, FL - just in time to have his first hurricane.... Al will be enjoying all those Floridian pleasures!

Newly hired to the DTBE program, assigned to West Palm Beach, **Victor "CARLOS" Alcantara** joins the TB program from his state position as a Public Health Educator, Marion County Health Department, Salem OR. From the west coast to the east coast, that is a change!

Newly hired as a public health advisor, **Susan Spieldenner** moved to her first duty assignment in the Berkeley CA TB Program, from her state position in TB Michigan state program.

**Vernard Green** Public Health Advisor I, North Carolina Dept. of Health and Human Services, has been selected for the Public Health Advisor, DTBE. His assigned duty station is Newark, New Jersey.

**Emmanuel Iroanya** was selected for the Field Services and Evaluation Branch (FSEB) Public Health Advisor position in Fulton County, GA, and started in the position on September 18. Emmanuel has come to DTBE after working in the Texas Department of State Health Services since 1988.

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Two IETA fellows -- Sherry and Steven on detail

Colleagues: I am happy to announce that **Sherry Orloff** and **Steven Donald** will be on detail to the CDC Global AIDS Program in Zambia for the next two months. Both are here as IETA Fellows (International Experience and Technical Assistance Program, National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention). The IETA Program at CDC aims to invest in and expand the network of internationally skilled and experienced individuals who are available for future TDYs and long-term positions in international health. Steven and Sherry follow in the 'IETA footsteps' of Sam Van Leeuwen who recently returned to the States after a successful tour here.

Sherry Orloff is the lead Public Health Advisor for the Laboratory, Surveillance and Infrastructure Branch in the Global AIDS Program at CDC. She is a certified medical laboratory technologist and has an MPH from Emory University (1993). She gained her early work experience in microbiology, hematology, chemistry and immunology in South Carolina. Sherry has worked at CDC for a number of years serving in several capacities including epidemiologist, public health advisor, and program analyst. She has served as technical advisor for state health departments that were funded to maximally reduce perinatal HIV transmission in the U.S. Sherry has collaborated on a number of HIV prevention projects and has an extensive list of publications in this area. While in Zambia, she will work primarily on evaluating laboratory quality assurance of rapid HIV

testing in PMTCT in selected sites within the country and will assist in formulating a plan of action and activities for any needed improvements. Sherry will be with us until October 14.

Steven Donald is a molecular biologist at the National Cancer Institute (our sister agency, the National Institutes of Health) in Maryland, USA. His experience includes work on B and T cell lymphocytes and characterization of bacterial agents of chronic diarrhea in infants. Steven has also served as an instructor in pathogenic microbiology and immunology didactic and laboratory courses. He will work with laboratories in Ndola and Lusaka to strengthen training of TB/HIV and other opportunistic infections for laboratory technologists and students at Evelyn Hone and Ndola College of Biomedical Sciences. Steven will be with us until November 4.

Please join me in warmly welcoming Sherry and Steven to Zambia. Both will contribute their skills in capacity building in the laboratory arena. I would like to thank Dr Bereneice Madison for working closely with our 2 IETA fellows during their stay in Zambia. Marc Bulterys

An accompanying note:

Marc,

I appreciate that you have taken the time to write this very nice introduction of both Sherry and Steven as well as the thoughtful summary of IETA.

IETA started in 1997 with the first class graduating in late 1998. In my opinion, it is an enormously important training program that was well conceived, taught, and managed by dear friends and colleagues at the CDC. Several in the original class continue to work in international public health today.

Warmest regards to all at CDC-GAP Zambia,

Lin (a thankful graduate of the original IETA class)

Lin Parsons

And if you are wondering just where is LIN?

Following my retirement from CDC in January 2000, Liz and I lived in Zimbabwe and then Zambia serving as an Anglican missionaries with the Episcopal Church USA. We returned to the States in July 2003. In February of 2004, we were on the Copperbelt in northern Zambia working with an orphan care project we co-founded while we lived there. I visited the offices of CDC-GAP Zambia at embassy Lusaka. I am delighted to say that since then I have returned on six different occasions to assist as Acting Director and now as the Project Consultant. In February of this year, I entered into a contractual relationship that allows me to continue working directly with CDC-GAP Zambia. I am delighted! Warm regards to all and keep up the good work,

Lin

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**The Inside Story**

*CDC Leadership Profile: Meet Jay Bernhardt 9/13/2005*

As part of our series of leadership profiles, we continue with a profile of Jay Bernhardt, Director of the new National Center for Health Marketing

**Name:** Jay M. Bernhardt, PhD, MPH

**Title:** Director, National Center for Health Marketing (August 2005)

**Responsibilities:** “As Director of the new National Center for Health Marketing, it’s my job to make sure the work we do as a center is high-impact, science-based, and state-of-the-art. We also want our work to add significant value to existing marketing and communication efforts in all the CIOs, so we will be reaching out to them to make sure we can meet their needs with collaborative programs and services as we refine our mission, goals, and functions.”

Bernhardt added that many people at CDC are still curious about what health marketing means. “The American Marketing Association defines marketing as ‘creating, communicating, and delivering value to customers in ways that benefit the company and its stakeholders.’ In contrast, I see health marketing as creating, communicating, and delivering science-based health information to and from customers and partners in ways that benefit the customers’ and the public’s health.”

**First job at CDC:** This is his first job at CDC. He’s been on board one month although he says “it feels much longer.”

**Path to public health:** “I actually started out as an undergrad computer science major, but in my senior year decided that I preferred working with people and wanted to make a positive impact on society. I changed my major to sociology and became deeply involved as a peer sexual health educator. That experience really helped me find my calling in public health.”

Bernhardt graduated from Rutgers University with a degree in Sociology and a minor in Computer Science and was hired as a health educator and media campaign coordinator in the Office of Sexual Assault Services, in the Rutgers University Student Health Service. He went on to get his MPH degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and his PhD from the School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His work focused on health communication, media, and marketing, with an emphasis on information technology and eHealth. “To some extent, my work has come full circle,” he says. “My current interests in health marketing and communication draw heavily on my early experiences with information technology, creative design, health education, and even sociology.”

Prior to coming to CDC, Bernhardt was an Assistant Professor and the Founding Director of the Center for Public Health Communications, Emory University Rollins School of Public Health and before that was an Assistant Professor at the University of Georgia. Bernhardt also is the Vice Chairman of the Executive Board of APHA until his four-year term is completed this December.

**Last book(s) read:** Winning, by Jack and Suzy Welch. “This great book lays out clear strategies and priorities for developing and maintaining successful businesses and organizations. I liked that the principles were not just theories but were drawn from experience with concrete examples.”

Family/ Hobbies/Interests: Bernhardt's wife Sheryl is an occupational therapist and the founder of a company called Little Moves. She develops and teaches instructional play groups for parents and children. "Her most popular class right now is early potty training," says Bernhardt, smiling. They have two children, Lila, who is in first grade, and Nathan, 2½.

Bernhardt is a self-identified "computer geek" who enjoys gourmet cooking and restaurants "when I can find the time or the babysitter." He is originally from central New Jersey but has greatly enjoyed the last 10 years living in the south. "I'm even starting to root for the Braves," he shares, although he admits his real passion is for the New York Yankees. He is also passionate about mentoring students and was an original founder of the National Public Health Student Caucus of APHA, now the Student Assembly of APHA.

He is also a good poster child for public health. "In the last couple of years I have lost almost 50 pounds and so far have kept it all off. I exercised a lot and totally changed what and how I ate. My secrets really are just eating less and eating differently and exercising more. Believe it or not, it wasn't that hard. You can do it too!"

What are the top priorities you are working on? "Clearly, right now our top priority in NCHM is doing whatever we can to help with hurricane relief efforts. Our center is deeply involved through the Emergency Communication System, Partner Coordination, and many other activities. We are very proud to contribute to the critical role CDC is playing to respond to this tragic disaster."

"We are also working hard at NCHM to refine our mission, goals, and key functions so we can have a high impact on public health for CDC. We will be reaching out to other CIOs so we can be more horizontally integrated and value-added. For example, we plan to soon implement an internal market research assessment to the CIOs to better understand and meet their health marketing needs."

"I came on board just a few weeks before Hurricane Katrina and I've been incredibly impressed by the hard work and exceptional talent of the people here at CDC and NCHM. I am proud and honored to be part of this remarkable organization."

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CDC Leadership Profile: Meet Howard Frumkin

10/4/2005

As part of our series of leadership profiles, we continue with a profile of Howard Frumkin, MD, MPH, DrPH, Director, NCEH/ATSDR.

Name: Howard Frumkin, MD, MPH, DrPH

Title: Director, NCEH/ATSDR (September 2005)

Responsibilities: Oversees CDC's National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry with approximately 800-900 full-time staff. He hopes to focus every employee in the Center on articulating a vision of safe, healthy environments for the American people and for the people of the world.

"NCEH/ATSDR addresses the entire range of environmental health concerns – from vector control to toxic chemicals to air pollutants to the built environment. The Healthy

Places goals that are articulated as part of the new CDC include healthy communities, healthy homes, healthy schools, healthy workplaces, healthy hospitals and other healthcare settings, and healthy institutions, goals that resonate with a lot of what we care about in environmental health.”

First Job at CDC: Current position

"I am delighted to be joining NCEH/ATSDR. This is perhaps the most wonderful environmental public health job in the world – an agency with an enormous reservoir of talent, experience, dedication and expertise. It is a chance to make a real difference in advancing safe, healthy environments for the nation and the world.”

Path to Public Health: "I got into public health back in college during a senior year project. "Group independent study projects" were a popular option in those days, and a group of us decided to focus on health and safety hazards in the jewelry industry. Then, as now, this industry was centered in southeastern New England where I was in college. We studied the health and safety hazards faced by predominantly Portuguese immigrant workers in the jewelry industry. A lot of the costume jewelry manufacturing takes place in small, unventilated, partially adapted old mill buildings. We found there was a wide range of hazards, from soldering fumes to asbestos to heat to noise, and the workers who were exposed often didn't know much about them and didn't know how to protect themselves. After we learned about the hazards and appropriate protective measures, we wrote a health and safety manual, had it translated into Portuguese, and distributed it. I realized there was a way to combine good science, databased advocacy, and cultural sensitivity to do good for the world, and I found what I wanted to do with my life.

"After college I went off to medical school, public health school, and residency training in both internal medicine and occupational/environmental medicine. My first job after I finished my training was as an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Fifteen years ago, I came to Atlanta to become chair of Environmental and Occupational Health at the newly formed Public Health School at Emory. I loved the teaching, research, and service aspects of working in academia. With teaching, I love contributing to forming the next generation of public health leaders, and I love communicating the passion and excitement I feel for what we do.

"Research is fascinating – there is so much in environmental health we don't know but we need to know, and a wide range of research methods can help us learn that. My doctorate is in epidemiology and most of my research was epidemiologic but I also had the chance to do clinical studies on patients I served and some policy analyses. I loved it all. Service is at the core of public health and it's something CDC knows all about because it is also at the core of CDC's mission. A lot of academics think service is less important than research and teaching but for me, it was always an inherent part of my work as a professor. So, technical consultations to communities, help for patients, running our Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit at Emory that served the public, healthcare providers, agencies and elected officials concerned about pediatric environmental health throughout the region – those were all activities very near and dear to my heart. At Emory, as at CDC, my work feels more like a calling than a job, and I feel enormously fortunate to be able to do what I do."

Last book(s) read: The Long Emergency, by James Howard Kunstler. "A long, creative meditation on coming changes to our way of life once petroleum becomes scarce."

The Great Fire: A Novel, by Shirley Hazzard. "A novel of post World War II set in Japan in the aftermath of Hiroshima."

Happiness: Lessons from a New Science, by Richard Layard. "Written by a British economist, it looks at what makes people happy. Not surprisingly, it isn't so much acquiring wealth and possessions, but having strong social and family relationships."

Family: Resides in Atlanta with wife Beryl Ann Cowan, an attorney and child advocate who is completing her PhD in Community and Clinical Psychology, and children, Gabe, 18, and Amara, 14.

"In my free time I love spending time with my kids, paddling on my kayak, running and reading."

What are the top priorities you are working on? "One very important priority is biomonitoring and health tracking. This is a set of practices in the public health world that involve collecting information about the chemicals to which people are exposed and about diseases that may be related to those exposures, and tracking those parameters over time so we know how we are doing as a society. We have wonderful data as a country on the gross national product, unemployment, and other economic factors, and on how we drive and where we live, but we don't have good enough data on chemical exposures and how those may be associated with health. Our lab at NCEH/ATSDR is absolutely extraordinary in its technical capabilities and leadership in biomonitoring.

"A second very important priority is the environmental health needs of certain sub-populations. It is important to remember that not all of us are equally susceptible to environmental hazards. People of color and poor people often sustain disproportionate exposures. Children have vulnerabilities because of their young age and their behaviors and exposure patterns. Increasingly, we are an old society and the elderly are a special risk group when it comes to environmental exposures. We need to focus a lot of attention on each of these populations.

"A third area is the built environment – how we design our buildings, our neighborhoods, our transportation systems in ways that maximize public health. I think CDC's recently adopted Healthy Places goals offer a wonderful opportunity to look at how to get healthy communities designed and built, communities that enhance the health of Americans. This is a different domain in environmental health than a lot of our traditional concerns for chemicals, radiation, and biological hazards. This is the whole set of issues that CDC employees who work on Buford highway know very well – roads that don't allow pedestrians to walk but require them to drive; roads that pose an unacceptable injury risk; metropolitan areas like Atlanta that require a lot of driving, contributing to air pollution. There is a wide range of health impacts that derive from the way we design and build our communities.

"This last issue is more relevant than ever because the destruction wrought by Hurricane Katrina requires us as a nation to think hard about the reconstruction of New Orleans and Gulfport, Biloxi and countless communities along the Gulf Coast. That is a terribly tragedy, but tragedies often offer opportunities. I think we have an opportunity to think about healthy community design as those communities get redesigned and rebuilt.

"Finally, I am concerned about preparedness-preparedness not only for dreadful events such as terrorist attacks and natural catastrophes such as earthquakes and hurricanes, but also for long-term trends such as global climate change and the end of petroleum. Each of these is in many ways an environmental health challenge, and each of these has profound potential to affect human health and well-being. We need to lean forward, anticipate, prepare, and to the extent we can, mitigate the dangers involved, not only for us but for our children and their children."

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**RETIREMENTS**

After serving with distinction for 30 years as a PHS Commissioned Officer, **CAPT Bernadine Kuchinski** is retiring from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health effective October 1, 2005.

Dr. Kuchinski started her career with NIOSH in 1975. She has been instrumental in the development and evolution of the NIOSH Training Grant Program as authorized by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. The Program has produced thousands of Occupational Safety and Health practitioners and researchers who have gone on to serve in leadership roles in the private and public sectors and academia. She has been the recipient of numerous PHS Honor Awards and recently was the recipient of the PHS Minnigerode Award for Nursing Excellence. She has also been recognized as the spokesperson and champion for the Occupational Health Nursing profession both within NIOSH as well as the international Occupational Safety and Health community.

After retirement Dr. Kuchinski plans provide increased attention to gardening, traveling to visit many friends and professional colleagues, and becoming more active in her Church activities. She will be sorely missed by her co-workers.

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Even though he doesn't look a day over 40, **Kent Taylor** will be taking an early retirement from CDC on September 30.

Kent's experience includes over 15 years in corporate communications, public affairs, policy and media relations at CDC. His positions include four years as CDC media relations director, associate director for policy at the National Center for Environmental Health, director for PHPPPO's Division of Professional Development and Evaluation, and his current jobs as chief for NCHM's Broadcast Production and Distribution Branch and Public Health Training Network (PHTN) director. His accomplishments include coordinating the CDC communication activities for President Clinton's Tuskegee apology, managing the crisis communication plan for the first avian flu outbreak in Hong Kong, coordinating NCEH activities for congressional briefings in Fallon, Nevada on a childhood leukemia cluster, and managing communication issues in the vetting of previous CDC Director Dr. David Satcher for Surgeon General.

Kent looks forward to continuing to work with CDC staff in his new management position at Constella Health Sciences in Atlanta, a leading provider of health services expertise to commercial, not-for-profit and government clients, including CDC.

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**SHARE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Services to Help All Regular Employees SHARE**

**CDC/SHARE Group Outing to Opening Night of the Gwinnett Gladiators**

Friday, October 21, 2005

From: 07:30 PM To: 10:00 PM

Location: Gwinnett Arena

\$16 Premium Seats for \$12 -

Contact Denise Barros for tics -

Web site: <http://intranet.cdc.gov/ecp/groups/share/shnews.html#hockey>

(For details about this event)

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CDC/SHARE ASO Holiday Entertainment Specials

Location: Woodruff Arts Center -

Sunday, December 04, 2005

From: 02:00 PM To: 05:00 PM

Email Tony to reserve - Read link below for more details

Web site: <http://intranet.cdc.gov/ecp/groups/share/shnews.html#hes>

(For details about this event)

Contact: Tony McDonald

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